

Department of Licensing
Washington State Motorcycle Safety Advisory Board Meeting
September 16, 2005

1. Call the meeting to order

2. Introduction of the Board Members

Tom Wolfe: Washington State Patrol
Larry Walker: Club Member/Washington Road Riders Association
Pat Barnes: Public Member
Bruce Santy: Club Member/BMWOA
James Wihlborg: Club Member/ABATE
Carl Spurgeon: WMSP Coordinator and DOL Liaison

3. Explanation of the Board

The Advisory Board was established by law to gather public input about motorcycling safety and report the findings to the Department of Licensing Director.

4. Review the minutes from the last meeting-Approved at last Working Group

5. Old Business

- Review Minutes from the Working Meeting on August 29, 2005.

Approved.

6. Reports

- Motorcycle Budget Ronell Osberg

Ronell reported that most of the sponsors were within their projections for the majority of the 1st quarter. Please let her know if you see any errors in your budget.

- Motorcycle Webpage Ronell Osberg

Ronell reported that she has been working on the webpage updates, importing new and updated information. The rollout of the Department of Licensing webpage is scheduled for January 6, 2006. Some of the motorcycle information that will be included on the new site is information about Sidecars and Trikes, testing information, both the riding diagrams, and practice written questions. Both the motorcycle and sidecar and trike manuals will also be electronic. It will also give program history, information on how to get your endorsement, how to become an instructor, and some information on scooters.

Action Item: Preview for the board on the Webpage in December.

- Motorcycle FTE's Carl Spurgeon

Ronell Osberg is now a full-time employee, and was promoted to a Secretary Administrative. Steve Stewart will be joining us starting on Monday, September 19, 2005. We had three other applications. One didn't answer the questions that were provided, and the other was not an instructor. The other interviewed, and decided not to

accept the position. The application process will re-open for the second position on Monday, September 19th and stay open until it is filled.

- Motorcycle Safety

Fatalities Nation and State

Carl Spurgeon

On Monday, the semi-annual briefing of the Government Management Accountably Performance (GMAP) was presented to governor. One of the items of interest was Motorcycles and the extreme numbers of fatalities from 2003 to 2004. The program is getting lots of attention, for what are we doing to promote Motorcycle Safety. Just about every state in the country is experiencing this increase in fatalities. Washington is up from 31 in 2000 to 72 in 2004.

Larry-The federal transportation budget has a component to conduct an accident causality study of Motorcycle accidents. Rumor has it that this will be conducted in Oklahoma. There is another major portion of the funding from the federal government to the states for safety program use.

Bruce-What is the impact of the budget or on personnel with GMAP?

A great deal of Ronell's and my time over the last three weeks but that has its good points as the program is now front and center throughout state government. That also means we have to produce.

Key points: We have a problem. Two peaks 18-30 with speed as primary factor, and then 45-60 larger peak with alcohol and big heavy bikes failing to maintain control of the motorcycle. 90% of single vehicle motorcycle crashers fail to stay in their lane.

Action Item: Program will provide summary to board members.

- Unconventional Vehicles Meeting Carl Spurgeon

Carl has been accepted as a member of a committee with the American Association of Motor Vehicles Administration (AAMVA) to look at unconventional vehicles. This committee met in Washington D.C on August 3, 2005 to review issues dealing with everything from motorized foot boards to a motor homes. This committee will last for approximately one year. The last meeting dealt with pocket bikes and motorized skateboards and similar vehicles. Registration processes and validity plus operator licensing and where these vehicles can be ridden is all being examined. The committee will develop a recommendation from AAMVA to motor vehicle administrators for treatment of these vehicles and the operators of them. Most of these vehicles are imported as toys with no documentation to support their use on the public roadways. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) does not recognize them as a vehicle because they were imported in as toys. Washington law treats them like a bicycle. Several jurisdictions around the state have enacted local ordinances that restrict where, how and who may use them.

7. New business

- Alcohol Brochure

This is a new brochure for Alcohol awareness. (demonstrated) This is a cooperative product of the Washington Road Riders Association (WRRRA), Traffic Safety Commission, and Washington Motorcycle Safety Program (WMSP). The final document will be available next week. Once they are printed quantities will be distributed to Motorcycle sponsors, Licensing Offices, Driver Training Schools by the Motorcycle office. WRRRA will be distributing them to dealers and all other interested businesses. The original print was for 100,000.

- Instructor Prep Comments

I had a phone call from a contractor that has requested that we consider conducting instructor prep in the fall. Currently, all instructor training is done in the Spring. We would like to do more training in the fall so the new instructors have the slower part of the season to get up to speed before the real busy season hits

8. Comments from the Board

Jim liked the alcohol brochure. I don't know how it will affect someone below the age of 25. I could see them going to high schools and driver training schools for education.

Larry- Military training issue. See working meeting notes for detail, but this refers to the large number of military that are mandated training, not Washington residents, get reimbursed for training from DOD but are being charged tuition at a state resident rate. It is too late to get the language into the Department Of Licensing Legislative package. We are trying to get this onto the governor's request. If not then WRRRA will be standing by to try and insert legislation.

The motorcycle language to generalize the curriculum is stalled in the House Transportation Committee.

Representative Jeff Simpson pulled his sponsorship on the HOV lane-sharing bill and it is now stalled in the House Transportation Committee.

The free left turn lane is stalled in the House Transportation.

The lane-splitting bill is deceased on arrival, but people have great interest in this topic. Representative Jeff Morris is the only sponsor on this bill, and will be working with us on cleaning up the language on the bill.

9. Public Forum

Dave Wendell- The United Sidecar Association's Sidecar Safety Program, that Evergreens Safety Council's SidecarTrike Education Program evolved from, picks one person each year to be recognized for that person's efforts. This award is known as the Pop Dryer Award in honor of a very early sidecar racer. David Hough, President of USCA, is unable to attend tonight's meeting and has asked me to make this presentation in his behalf. The 2005 Pop Dryer Award recipient is Carl Spurgeon for his efforts in getting sidecar/trike training installed in Washington as part of the state program.

Carl Spurgeon was speechless.

Maryann Bailey-Chapter F President of GWRRA is putting together a mall show. It is the 2nd largest mall show in the State of Washington. This year we are stressing Motorcycle Safety. It will be held at South Hill Mall on October 22nd and 23rd. If you would like to enter a bike then they must be in place on October 21st. This year's show is in support of the Emergency Food Network. We are looking for volunteers to speak if any of you are interested. In February GWRRA will host their annual safety meeting, which you are all invited to attend.

10. **Adjourn 8:15

General Information:

DOL web page is <http://www.wa.gov/dol/drivers/wmsp.htm>

WMSP Coordinator, Carl Spurgeon 1-800-962-9010 choice 9.